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February 20, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: 15838-338001

## Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Presented for filing is a new continuation-in-part patent application of:

Applicant: JAMES W. CREE, LINO IULIANETTI AND ANTONIETTA  
SPLENDIANI

Title: ABSORBENT DEVICE USING AN APERTURED NONWOVEN AS  
AN ACQUISITION DISTRIBUTION LAYER

Enclosed are the following papers, including those required to receive a filing date  
under 37 CFR §1.53(b):

	<u>Pages</u>
Specification, including cover page	15
Claims	7
Abstract	1
Declaration	[To be Filed at a Later Date]
Drawing(s), Figs. 1-5, Formal	2

Enclosures:

— Acknowledgement Postcard.

This application is a continuation-in-part (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. application serial no. 10/308,312, filed December 2, 2002. The disclosure of the prior application is considered part of (and is incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application.

Basic filing fee	\$770
Total claims in excess of 20 ( $34 - 20 = 14 \times \$18$ )	\$252
Independent claims in excess of 3 ( $4 - 3 = 1 \times \$86$ )	\$86
Fee for multiple dependent claims	\$0
Total filing fee:	\$1108

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

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A check for the filing fee is enclosed. Please apply any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

If this application is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at 214-292-4035.

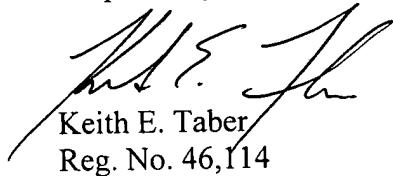
Kindly acknowledge receipt of this application by returning the enclosed postcard.

Please direct all correspondence to the following:

26231

PTO Customer Number

Respectfully submitted,



Keith E. Taber  
Reg. No. 46,114

Enclosures

KET/plb

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